



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

OCT. 7, 2004

HEALTH ALERT NETWORK HEALTH ADVISORY

Please note: Additional information has been added to previously sent health advisory.

National Influenza Vaccine Shortage

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) requests the participation of physicians, infection control practitioners, other health-care providers, and administrators of hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, Indian health services, and local public health units in an interactive Internet webcast/teleconference to discuss the serious shortage of influenza vaccine.

The webcast/teleconference will be held from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. (CST) Thursday, Oct. 7, 2004. This webcast/teleconference will be hosted from the North Dakota Heritage Center auditorium, where you may participate in person.

To participate in the webcast from an internet browser, click on www.health.state.nd.us/et/ and then click on the “Webcast Schedule” button on the left side of the screen. Click the blue view button of the webcast entitled “Influenza Vaccine Shortage.”

To participate by telephone, dial 800.582.9056. When prompted for the room number, dial *3282270*. (The star key must be pressed before and after the room number.)

Questions and comments may be presented via e-mail on the webcast web browser interface or by telephone. (Instructions for asking questions via telephone will be given when you dial in.)

Following the webcast, you will be able to view a tape of the program and provide comments at www.health.state.nd.us/et/. (Click on “Webcast Schedule” and then “List Archived Webcasts.”)

The NDDoH urges your participation in this interactive discussion. Your comments and recommendations are needed to adequately plan for the 2004-2005 influenza season in North Dakota.

Please contact the North Dakota Department of Health at 800.472.2180 or 701.328.2378 if you have any questions regarding this issue.

**Influenza Vaccine Shortage Webcast
October 7, 2004
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm CT**

Agenda

Format/Instructions	Tim Wiedrich Emergency Preparedness & Response Section Chief
Introductions	Tim Wiedrich
Status of national influenza supply	Larry Shireley State Epidemiologist
Status of North Dakota influenza supply	Larry Shireley
Vaccine supplied by the North Dakota Department of Health	Heather Weaver Immunization Program Manager
Priority groups for vaccination	Larry Shireley
Vaccine alternatives - Use of antivirals	Dr. Stephen Pickard CDC Epidemiologist

Discussion:

- Priority Groups within Priority Groups for Vaccination?
 - Long-Term Care Residents
 - Health-Care Workers
- Community Influenza Vaccination Plans
- Communities without Vaccine
 - Sharing/Redistribution of Vaccine?
- Information for Target Populations
 - Methods to "get the message out"
- Recommendation for Reducing Disease Transmission
 - Public
 - Health Care Institutions
 - Infection Control
 - Visitation Restrictions
 - Other Control Measures
- Expectations of the North Dakota Department of Health

Open Forum: Questions and Answers

Categories of Health Alert messages:

- *Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.*
- *Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.*
- *Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.*
- *Health Information provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.*

This message is being sent to local public health units, clinics, hospitals, physicians, tribal health, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Long Term Care Association, North Dakota Healthcare Association, North Dakota Medical Association, and hospital public information officers.